

Date: Fri, 4 Mar 94 04:30:19 PST  
From: Ham-Digital Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-digital@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Ham-Digital-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Ham-Digital@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Ham-Digital Digest V94 #58  
To: Ham-Digital

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Today's Topics:

Errors in TNC2 firmware???  
IM\_Mac1.0b27y.sea.hqx.text

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Digital@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Digital-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Digital Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-digital".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: 28 Feb 94 06:25:08 GMT  
From: nprdc!ihnp4.ucsd.edu!ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!  
agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!tern.csulb.edu!usenet@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Errors in TNC2 firmware???  
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

I have recently been experimenting with TNC2 clones and had run  
across two peculiar "bugs" in the firmware of an MFJ 1278, and  
a tiny TNC2.

The first problem relates to when the TNC2 sends to the computer  
the "Change incoming stream" command ("|B" to switch to stream B,  
for example). It seems that when in command mode, the TNC set the  
output stream to be equal to the input stream whenever it sends  
the "cmd:" prompt (if, of course, the output stream was set to  
something else previously). So if you are in command mode in stream  
A, and send a "|b" to set the input stream to B, and press Enter,  
the tnc will respond with "|Bcmd:" to tell that the output stream  
should now ALSO be set to stream B. The problem is this: The stream  
switch is sent JUST before sending the cmd: prompt. So if you are on  
stream A in command mode, and type "|bcst<CR>" to set the input to

stream B and get the status of all streams, the tnc will send the results, THEN the |B, then the new cmd: prompt. SO, the output of the cst request made on stream B will be sent to stream A. In fact, the results will show that the input stream is B, while the output stream is A! Of course, if you type another "cst<CR>", the results will be sent to the proper stream, because it has already been corrected. Do all TNC2's exhibit this feature?

The second problem is more major. I seems that when I am connected on two streams, and send text out on the first stream, and then switch to the second and do nothing, all output from the tnc is halted. For example, if I am connected on stream A and B to two bbs's, and I am currently on stream A, and I send "l<CR>|B" to list all files on the first bbs and then switch my input to the second bbs, the tnc will halt all output back to me. The results of the list command will come back to the tnc, and the tnc will receive them all internally, but will not send them to the computer...UNTIL I sent something to the tnc first. (Usually I send "^ck<CR>" to enter and then leave command mode. This will then allow all buffered data to be sent to me. However, if you do not send anything to the tnc, it will send nothing to you.

I have found these problems by using paKet 5.1. PaKet creates a different window for each of the tnc's streams, and pressing a shifted arrow key allows you to switch between the streams. When you do this, paKet sends a "|" and the stream identifier. Therefore, it is very easy to switch to another stream to view incoming data, without wanting to send anything, thus causing the second problem. And having entering a command in one window and having the output return in another window (the first problem) was also easily spotted. I have reproduced these problems using a simple terminal, so they are not errors with paKet.

One other note. I have also played with some Kantronics Tnc. They do not appear to have the lockup problem, but have an even worse version of the first bug. The incoming stream sent from the Kan TNC's is only changed when data comes in from over the air, not from commands. So if I am on stream A, and switch to stream B, SEND a <CR>, (this would fix the TNC2 problem), and start sending commands, the tnc never send me the stream switch command, so all the feedback from my commands always goes to stream A, (or whatever the last stream to receive over the air was). This is very frustrating when using paKet!

Anyone have any comments on any of this? Has anyone else experienced this? Any ideas for solutions?

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Byon Garraabrant KD6BCH byon@csulb.edu

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Date: 4 Mar 94 10:25:24 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: IM\_Mac1.0b27y.sea.hqx.text  
To: ham-digital@ucsd.edu

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Release Notes - IM/Mac 1.0=A727y

- The numbers in the option-about dialog are now correctly formatted =  
for all  
languages.

- Beachball cursor stops spinning immediately after finishing updatin=  
g mail file  
when quitting.

- Beachball cursor stops spinning when a system error occurs.

- When a system error occurs, the dialog that shows has a 'MacBug' b=  
utton when  
MacBug is running. This will create a file called 'crash\_log' whic=  
h you need  
to send me.

- Files with filetype 'ZSYS' and creator 'MACS' (e.g., 'VM Storage') =  
can no  
longer be send. They're treated as invisible files like the Finder =  
does.

- When selecting a file to send, the text inside the outlined button =  
was 'Send'  
instead of 'Open' if the target was an alias to a folder.

- When the last item (Record) in the "Edit 'bm.rc'=C9" dialog contain=  
ed only a  
filename, a system error occured. The syntax for that line is as fo=  
llows:  
[[[:<volume>:]<folder>:]<file>]. Square brackets enclose optional ite=  
ms.

Examples:

:My Hard Disk:My TCP/IP Folder:spool:Archive:Sent Mail  
spool:archive:sent mail

archive

- Finding out if MacsBug is installed via Gestalt doesn't work. Used = another method.
- Sending a file that needs to be BinHex encoded will have its name truncated to 27 characters to make room for the '.Hqx' suffix in the subject title. The original file name will reappear after the BinHex decoding takes place at the receiver's end.
- Deleted mail icon was 1 pixel too high.
- Does stuff/unstuff of files on system 7 Macintoshes that have 'StuffIt Engine=AA' (version 3.0 and higher) in the Extensions folder. Files that were compressed/made with StuffIt, Compact Pro, AppleLink, DiskDoubler or UpdateMaker won't stuff twice.
- Beachball cursor kept spinning when a system error occurred during BinHex encoding.
- On popular demand:

AX25 mail: on1xk@on6ar.#an.bel.eu  
AMPRnet: ivo@on1xk [44.144.8.5]  
Internet: on1xk@gg.tno.nl  
AppleLink: vanursel.ivo

Monday, February 28, 1994 - 18:48:54 UTC

Best 73's, es cuagn de Ivo, ON1XK @ ON6AR.#AN.BEL.EU [44.144.8.5]  
Wednesday, March 02, 1994 - 19:55:15 +0000 UTC

PS (by PA2AGA)

This version obsoletes all versions of info-mac/comm/radio-immac in the Sumex-Aim archives.

The new IM/Mac has (hopefully) been uploaded to ftp.std.com, to the

directory pub/hamradio/incoming, and to ucsd.edu, to the directory  
/hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming. If it's not there (anymore),  
then look at /hamradio/packet/tcpip/mac.

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End of Ham-Digital Digest V94 #58

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